

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: Globe-Union Inc.	CERCLA ID#: TXD980626642
Alias Site Name: NA	
Address: 1111 Shiloh Rd	
City/County or Parish/State/Zip: Garland/Dall	as County/Texas/75042 100018946
Report Type: Preliminary Assessment	Date: September 11, 2019 Author: TCEQ - Stephen Ellis
RECOMMENDATION:	
1. No Further Remedial Action Planned	2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund
Under Superfund (NFRAP)	□ PA □ HRS Priority: □ High □ SI □ RI/FS □ Low □ ESI □ RA □ Other: □
	To be performed by: TCEQ
 □ 3. No further assessment (i.e., not a valid CEF □ 4. Action Deferred to: □ RCRA □ NRC □ 5. Site Being Addressed Under the State Volume 	
NOTIFY AUTHORITY:	
□ Removal □ RCRA □ TSCA □ Remedial □ State/Tribe □ NPDE □ CERCLA □ Federal □ UIC Enforcement Facility	
SEND SSSR COPIES TO: SEDAE	WDDG ☐ ATSDR ☐ State Agency ☐ Tribal Agency
DISCUSSION:	

The former Globe-Union, Inc. battery facility (site) lies on two parcels totaling approximately 12.13 acres located at 1111 S. Shiloh Road in Garland, Texas. From the 1950s until 1995 this facility manufactured lead oxide batteries for the automobile market. A trucking company then operated at the site from the late 1990s until approximately 2008, after which the site was vacant for five years before Copier Exporter, Inc. (CEI), an exporter of used photocopiers to foreign markets, began using a portion of the site as a warehouse. CEI remains the principal business at the site.

The site is improved by a warehouse/office building that is greater than 225,000 square feet in size. The portion of the property not covered by the warehouse/office building is covered by concrete with only a few narrow strips of vegetation located along Shiloh Road. The site is essentially flat with a slight slope to the west in the direction of a creek known as stream 2C4, an intermittently flowing tributary to Duck Creek. Drainage is to the east on the east side of the property, where it flows into street drains. The site is secured by a chain-link fence; however, sections of the fence on the back of the property had been compromised.

Commercial and industrial properties are located to the north and west of the site, including a large Sherwin Williams facility to the north and a US Foods facility to the northeast. Smaller warehouses and office space lie to the west, and various retail entities operate to the south along Shiloh Road. A large residential neighborhood constructed during the 1950s and 1960s is located to the east and southeast.

From the 1950s until 1995, the former Globe-Union facility manufactured lead oxide batteries for the automobile market. Lead oxide was transported from Mexico via train or truck to the facility to be smelted and pressed into electrodes, or plates

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which were used in the production of automotive batteries. The lead smelting process generates a variety of contaminants including lead particulate and sulfur dioxide. Particulate matter generated during the lead smelting process has been controlled since the early 1900s through the use of large filters, known as baghouses which were often set up in an array. The Globe-Union facility had one baghouse present by 1973 (installation date unknown) when they requested and received approval from the Texas Air Control Board (TACB) to install a second baghouse to allow for an increase in production capacity while maintaining air emissions standards. A permitted central vacuum system, used to clean indoor air from the plant, was also routed to the baghouses. A drying tower was constructed in the late 1970s to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions. TACB files detail several additional air permits for various processes within the plant which were in place from the 1970s until the conclusion of operations in 1995.

The EPA completed a Preliminary Assessment of the Globe-Union facility in 1983. The Preliminary Assessment report noted that the City of Garland was testing plant effluent on a monthly basis and that city officials were 'satisfied' with facility operations. The report noted that approximately 80,000 gallons per day of liquid waste as well as 12.5 tons per month of solid waste including fly ash, defective lead plates and workers' clothing were generated. Drummed solid waste was staged on the west side of the facility between the baghouses until manifested and disposed at a facility in Louisiana. Based on the information gathered during this Preliminary Assessment and the fact that the facility was actively regulated under other Federal, State and local environmental programs, it was recommended that no further assessment under the EPA Superfund Program be conducted.

TACB records of site air emissions testing beginning in 1973 record particulate readings far below allowable limits. Early 1980's air emissions investigations by the City of Garland found that property line air testing was consistently below the permitted limit. TACB records note a lack of complaints or violations through the second half of the 1980's.

The Texas Department of State Health Services conducted a cancer cluster study in the vicinity of the site in 2018 at the request of concerned community members. Focusing on census tracts which encompass residences 1 mile to the east and approximately 1.6 miles to the south, the study found that there was no statistically significant increase in cancer rates among the nearby population.

A site visit associated with this Preliminary Assessment was conducted on April 3, 2019. All equipment associated with battery production was removed from the site in 1995 when production ceased. The primary onsite business currently in operation is Copier Exporter, Inc., a reseller of used photo copiers. They purchase used copiers in bulk, refurbish as necessary, and sell to foreign buyers. Copiers are housed predominantly in the central portion of the facility. One room contains pallets of material belonging to Advanced Water Management. Remnants of a pallet painting area was evident in the northernmost section of the main warehouse. There is no evidence of residual contamination within the current facility or in the parking lot where the baghouses and waste staging area were formerly located. Based on reports of potential drums discarded in the nearby creek, efforts were made to locate drums or identify any evidence of prior dumping or impaired or stressed vegetation. Although discarded tires were evident, the stormwater retention pond located immediately west of the site and across the railroad tracks appeared to be unimpaired.

There are 150 monitoring wells, 60 environmental soil borings, 28 injection wells, and 7 wells listed as "other" (likely monitoring wells) within one mile of the site. A monitoring well installed on site in 2012 was plugged the same day it was drilled. The City of Garland purchases its drinking water from the North Texas Municipal Water District. No public or private drinking water wells were identified within one mile of the site.

All runoff from the west side of the site flows west across the parking lot until reaching a grassy area adjacent to railroad tracks, which force all runoff to the south. From the southwest corner of the site property, runoff continues to flow for approximately 300 feet until entering stream 2C4, an intermittent creek. The overland route continues to the southeast for approximately 1.5 miles until stream 2C4 joins Ruperds Branch, a perennial creek which is the probable point of entry (PPE). Ruperds Branch flows approximately 0.7 mile to the east until joining Duck Creek. The 15-Mile Target Distance Limit (TDL) ends approximately 1.5 miles before Duck Creek empties into the East Fork of the Trinity River. There are no downstream surface water intakes along the 15-Mile TDL. There is a potential for recreational fishing on Duck Creek. A mix of temporarily and seasonally flooded freshwater forested scrub and freshwater emergent wetlands begins approximately 2.2 miles after the PPE for the surface water pathway. Duck Creek Park, which is the beginning of these wetlands, is the first of numerous parks along the 15-mile TDL.

The Globe-Union site is located along a commercial thoroughfare, with industrial facilities and warehouses to the north, west, and south, and a large residential neighborhood to the east and southeast. The site is surrounded by a fence which limits access to the site. There are four single-family residences and a small apartment complex located within 200 feet of the northeast corner of the site. There is a possibility that soils in the near vicinity of the site may have been affected as the

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result of wind dispersion of air emissions from the former Globe-Union facility. The primary area of concern is the neighborhood located to the southeast of the site. Meteorological data indicates a strong tendency for wind to blow directly from the south through much of the year, with winter being the most likely time that winds blow from the northwest. Winds from the west and west-northwest are minimal throughout the year. Property line air testing conducted during facility operations found no exceedances of permitted limits.

The former Globe-Union facility manufactured lead oxide batteries for the automotive industry from the 1950s through 1995. This manufacuring process included the smelting of lead oxide into lead plates. Although available information suggests the facility maintained adequate emissions controls, additional information is needed to ensure that the residential neighborhood located to the east and southeast was not impacted by these emissions. Therefore, a Site Inspection is recommended for this site. The State will be provided a copy of this decision document.

APPROVALS:

Report Reviewed by:

Bret Kendrick
(Site Assessment Manager)

Disposition
Approved by:

Brenda Cook
(Section Chief - SEDAS)

Signature:

Brenda Toun (Inc.)

Date: 9/17/19